

Cultural and Racial Diversity and Aging

(See Also: [International Statistics](#), [Life Expectancy](#), [Longevity](#) and [Disability](#) Notes)

- [Overviews of Aging and Diversity](#)
- [Demographics](#)
- [Government Sponsored Programs and Centers](#)
- [National Aging Focused Organizations](#)
- [Local Service Programs \(examples\)](#)
- [Research Studies and Training Modules](#)

Immigrants have always influenced the history and culture of the United States. The first arrivals were Native Americans, Alaskans and Hawaiians. Immigrants from Western Europe brought new language, culture and tradition. The involuntary immigration of Africans in the late 18th and early 19th centuries profoundly changed social institutions of the 20th century. Waves of immigration due to the industrial revolution in Europe preceded those that followed involvement with other nations as allies in war. The latest U.S. Census indicates that in the last 10 years new immigrants have arrived from over 100 countries with the greatest numbers coming from Mexico and South America and all parts of Asia.

As in all immigrations, new immigrants bring family members of all ages. Older family members can expect an improved quality of life and long life, but often find access to services and programs more difficult than younger adults and children. Cultural and language differences create challenges both to them and to staff and administrators in service and benefit networks. Challenges also persist in reaching older adults who maintain their culture though born in the United States – some by choice and others for lack of opportunity, bias or other barriers. Links brought together on this page represent information sources on older adults living in the United States as immigrants and descendants of immigrants, whose lives and lifestyles are notably different from individuals adapted and assimilated into the dominant culture.

Overviews of Aging and Diversity

Addressing Diversity

(U.S. Administration on Aging)

<http://www.aoa.gov/prof/adddiv/adddiv.asp>

A Portrait of Older Minorities

(AARP)

<http://research.aarp.org/general/portmino.html>

Achieving Cultural Competence: A Guidebook for Providers of Services to Older Americans and Their Families

(U.S. Administration on Aging)

http://www.aoa.gov/prof/adddiv/cultural/addiv_cult.asp

Hispanics and Latinos

Serving Our Hispanic American Elders

(U.S. Administration on Aging)

http://www.aoa.gov/press/fact/alpha/fact_serving_hispanicamer.asp

Older Hispanic Americans: Less care for Chronic Conditions

(Center on an Aging Society, Georgetown University)

<http://ihcrp.georgetown.edu/agingsociety/pubhtml/hispanics/hispanics.html>

American Indian, Alaskan Native and Native Hawaiian

American Indian, Alaskan Native, and Native Hawaiian Program

(U.S. Administration on Aging)

http://www.aoa.gov/press/fact/alpha/fact_ain.asp

Asian and Pacific Islanders

Help for Health Booklets [in seven Far Eastern languages]

(National Asian Pacific Center on Aging)

<http://www.napca.org/Default.aspx?tabid=64>

Demographics

Minority Aging Statistics

(U.S. Administration on Aging)

http://www.aoa.gov/prof/Statistics/minority_aging/minority_aging.asp

Minority Links

(U.S. Census Bureau)

<http://www.census.gov/pubinfo/www/hotlinks.html>

Mapping Census 2000: The Geography of Diversity

(U.S. Census Bureau)

<http://www.census.gov/prod/2001pubs/censr01-1.pdf>

The Older Foreign-Born Population in the United States: 2000

(U.S. Census Bureau)

<http://www.census.gov/prod/2002pubs/p23-211.pdf>

The Foreign Born Population in the United States – Population Characteristics

(U.S. Census Bureau)

<http://www.census.gov/population/www/socdemo/foreign.html>

**Racial and Ethnic Differences in Health – Medical Expenditure Panel Survey
Chartbook No. 2**

(U.S. Agency for Health Care Research and Quality)

http://www.meps.ahrp.gov/PrintProducts/PrintProd_Detail.asp?ID=2

The 65 and Over Population: 2000

(U.S. Census Bureau)

<http://landview.census.gov/prod/2001pubs/c2kbr01-10.pdf>

Age 2000

(U.S. Census Bureau)

<http://landview.census.gov/prod/2001pubs/c2kbr01-12.pdf>

Trends in Health and Aging - Tables

(National Center for Health Statistics)

<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/agingact.htm>

Hispanic and Latino

Overview of Race and Hispanic Origin – Census 2000 Brief

(U.S. Census Bureau)

<http://landview.census.gov/prod/2001pubs/c2kbr01-3.pdf>

Race and Hispanic or Latino Origin by Age and Sex for the United States: 2000

(U.S. Census Bureau)

<http://landview.census.gov/population/www/cen2000/phc-t08.html>

**Annual Projections of the Resident Population by Age, Sex, Race, and Hispanic
Origin: Lowest, Middle, Highest Series and Zero International Migration Series,
1999 to 2100**

(U.S. Census Bureau)

<http://www.census.gov/population/www/projections/natdet-D1A.html>

African American

The Black Population: 2000

(U.S. Census Bureau)

<http://www.census.gov/prod/2001pubs/c2kbr01-5.pdf>

Black Population: 2000 [U.S. Map]

(U.S. Census Bureau)

<http://www.census.gov/prod/2001pubs/mso01-bp.pdf>

Asian American

The Asian Population: 2000 [U.S. Map]

(U.S. Census Bureau)

<http://www.census.gov/prod/2001pubs/mso01asia.pdf>

Pacific Islanders

The Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander Population: 2000

(U.S. Census Bureau)

<http://www.census.gov/prod/2001pubs/mso01nhpi.pdf>

Hispanic American

Overview of Race and Hispanic Origin

(U.S. Census Bureau)

<http://landview.census.gov/prod/2001pubs/c2kbr01-1.pdf>

Native American

The Native American and Alaskan Native Population: 2000

(U.S. Census Bureau)

<http://www.census.gov/prod/2002pubs/c2kbr01-15.pdf>

Indian Health Focus – Elders

(U.S. Indian Health Service)

http://www.ihs.gov/NonMedicalPrograms/IHS_Stats/files/elders.pdf

White

The White Population: 2000

(U.S. Census Bureau)

<http://www.census.gov/prod/2001pubs/c2kbr01-4.pdf>

Government Sponsored Programs and Centers

Department of Health and Human Services

Office of Minority Health Resource Center – Health Materials Database

<http://www.omhrc.gov/OMH/maindb.htm> - EXS

Growing Older: Health Issues for Minorities

Closing the Gap, May 2000

http://www.omhrc.gov/ctg/ctg_aging2.pdf

Administration on Aging

Native Americans, Native Alaskans, & Hawaiian Natives

<http://www.aoa.gov/prof/aoaprogram/natives/native.asp>

National Resource on Native American Aging
(University of North Dakota at Grand Forks)
<http://www.med.und.nodak.edu/depts/rural/nrcnaa/>

Native Elder Health Care Resource Center
(University of Colorado Health Sciences Center)
<http://www.uchsc.edu/ai/nehcrc/>

National Institute on Aging – National Institutes of Health

Review of Minority Aging Research at the National Institute on Aging
(National Institutes on Aging)
<http://www.nia.nih.gov/research/minority/execsummary.htm>

Resource Centers for Minority Aging Research Coordinating Center
(University of California at Los Angeles)
<http://www.rcmar.ucla.edu/>

Center for Aging and Diversity
(The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill)
<http://www.aging.unc.edu/cad/index.html>

Center for Aging in Diverse Populations
(University of California, San Francisco)
<http://medicine.ucsf.edu/divisions/cadc/>

Columbia Center for Active Life of Minority Elders
(Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center)
<http://cpmcnet.columbia.edu/dept/calme/>

Michigan Center for Urban African Aging Research
(Wayne State University)
<http://mcuaaar.iog.wayne.edu/>

National Institutes on Health

National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities
<http://ncmhd.nih.gov/>

Department of Labor

**Senior Community Service Employment Program - Title V, Older American Act
Minority Aging Organization Sponsors**
http://wdsc.doleta.gov/seniors/html_docs/sites.cfm

Indian Health Service

Indian Elders

<http://info.ihs.gov/People/People2.pdf>

Long Term Care

http://www.ihs.gov/MedicalPrograms/ElderCare/Long_Term_Care.asp

Agency for Health Care Research and Quality

Improving Long Term Care for American Indians in Region VIII

(U.S. Agency for Health Care Research and Quality)

<http://www.ahrq.gov/news/ulp/amindltc/ulpailtc.htm>

Social Security Administration

Latino Initiative on Social Security

<http://www.nclr.org/content/publications/detail/29396>

Native Elder Health Care Center

(University of Colorado Health Sciences Center)

<http://www.uchsc.edu/ai/nehcrc/>

Work Group on Minority Aging Newsletter

(National Institute on Aging)

<http://www.nia.nih.gov/news/wgma/>

Center for Disease Control

Minority Health

<http://www.cdc.gov/washington/programs/minorhea.htm>

Minority Health – Fast Stats

<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/otheract/grants/projects/progdir/dimas.htm>

National Aging Focused Organizations

Ageing and Ethnicity Web

<http://www.aeweb.org/>

Centro Gerontologico Latino (Latino Gerontological Center)

<http://www.gerolatino.org/organize.html>

Ethnic Elders Care Network

<http://www.ethnicelderscare.net/>

Lesbian and Gay Aging Issues Network

(American Society on Aging)

<http://www.asaging.org/lgain.html>

LGTB Aging Project

<http://www.lgbtagingproject.org/>

National Asian Pacific Center on Aging (NAPCA)

<http://www.napca.org/>

National Caucus and Center on Black Aged

<http://www.ncba-aged.org/>

National Hispanic Council on Aging (NHCOA)

<http://www.nhcoa.org/>

National Indian Council on Aging

<http://www.nicoa.org/>

National American Indian Housing Council

<http://naihc.indian.com/>

Task Force on Minority Issues

(Gerontological Society of America)

<http://www.personal.psu.edu/users/k/e/kew5/index.html>

Local Service Programs (Examples)**Baltimore****Greenmount Senior Center [Korean Elders]**

<http://www.angelfire.com/md3/greenmountcenter/main.html>

Chicago**Korean American Senior Center**

<http://www.chikasc.org/>

Cleveland**Hispanic Senior Center**

(Catholic Charities Services Cuyahoga County)

http://www.nhlink.net/ClevelandNeighborhoods/detroit_shoreway/hispicen/srhispcctr.htm

Lincoln (Nebraska)**Asian Center**

<http://www.ci.lincoln.ne.us/city/mayor/aging/centers/asian/>

Los Angeles

Asian Pacific Older Adults Task Force

http://www.ltsc.org/Our_Services/APOATF/apoatf.html

St. Barnabas Senior Center (Korean)

http://www.la4seniors.com/korean_st_barnabas.htm

St. Barnabas Chinatown Senior Center

http://www.la4seniors.com/chinese_st_barnabas.htm

West Hollywood Comprehensive Service Center Services for Russian Seniors

http://www.la4seniors.com/russian_whwd.htm

Little Tokyo Service Center

http://www.la4seniors.com/little_tokyo_center.htm

Filipino American Service Group

<http://www.fasgi.org/services.htm>

Hollywood Senior Center – Armenian Services

<http://www.la4seniors.com/armenian.htm>

El Centro Hollywood

http://www.la4seniors.com/centro_hollywood.htm

El Centro de Ancianos de Slauson

http://www.la4seniors.com/centro_slauson.htm

Instituto Internacional de Los Angeles

http://www.la4seniors.com/instituto_internacional.htm

New York

Korean Community Services – Aging Services

<http://www.kcsny.org/aging.htm>

Senior Action in A Gay Environment

<http://www.sageusa.org/>

Phoenix

Chinese Senior Center

<http://www.ci.phoenix.az.us/SRCNTRS/ctrchin.html>

Portsmouth, New Hampshire

Black Elders of the Seacoast

<http://www.seacoastnh.com/blackhistory/elders.html>

San Francisco

Korean Center

<http://www.koreannet.org/programs/senior.html>

Seattle

Cross Cultural Health Care Program

<http://www.xculture.org/index.cfm>

Sunshine Chinese Garden Senior Adult Day Care Center

http://www.cisc-seattle.org/pg_elderlyservices.aspx?id=3&sid=21&lang=en&txt=sunshine

Research Studies and Training Modules

Social Security and Minorities: Earnings, Disability Incidence, and Mortality Are Key Factors That Influence Taxes Paid and Benefits Received

(U.S. General Accounting Office)

<http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-03-387> Full Report

<http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d03387high.pdf> Highlights

Unequal Treatment: Confronting Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Health Care

(National Academy Press)

<http://www.nap.edu/books/030908265X/html/>

Ethnogeriatric Education Resources Data Base

(Stanford University Geriatric Education Center)

<http://www.stanford.edu/dept/medfm/gec/curric.html>

Core Curriculum in Ethnogeriatrics and Selected Modules

(Stanford University)

<http://www.stanford.edu/group/ethnoger/>

In the Middle: A Report on Multicultural Boomers Coping with Family and Aging Issues

(Research Institute, AARP)

<http://www.aarp.org/inthemiddle/>

Outing Age: Public Policy Issues Affecting Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Elders, November 2000

(National Gay and Lesbian Task Force)
<http://www.ngltf.org/downloads/outingage.pdf>

Individual Differences, Ethnicity, And Aging: What Can Gerogenetic Studies Contribute?

(University of Michigan)
<http://rcgd.isr.umich.edu/prba/perspectives/springsummer2000/kwhitfield2.pdf>

Promoting Exercise in Older Minority Adults and Those with Diabetes

(Edward R. Roybal Centers for Research and Applied Gerontology)
http://www.applied-gerontology.org/UIC_Brief_Spring_01.pdf

The Impact of Pay Inequality, Occupational Segregation, and Lifetime Work Experience on the Retirement Income of Women and Minorities (AARP)

http://research.aarp.org/econ/9910_women_1.html

Self-Perceptions of Latino Elderly in a Mid-Michigan Community

(Julian Samora Research Institute)
<http://www.jsri.msu.edu/RandS/research/wps/wp22abs.html>

Curriculum Module on Aging and Ethnicity

(U. of California, Berkeley)
<http://garnet.berkeley.edu/~aging/ModuleMinority1.html>

BMC:01/15/04

Center for Communications and Consumer Services

U.S. Administration on Aging

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